TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 21, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 16 totaled an estimated 16.1 billion ton-miles, 9.0 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 28 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 431.0 billion ton-miles, 2.6 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 16 totaled 360,036 cars, 5.0 percent over 1982, and 27.2 percent higher than the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 4.3 percent in the South and 9.1 percent in the West, but down 1.1 percent in the East.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 13 of the 21 commodity groups were up, led by metallic ores, which increased by 55.4 percent. Other significant gains included: coke, 30.5 percent; non-metallic minerals, 26.7 percent; and stone, clay and glass products, 13.7 percent. Grain loadings were up 11.7 percent, highest since the week ending November 21, 1981. All of the 21 groups were up from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 9 totaled 37,008 cars, up 23.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 63,592 trailers and/or containers, 22.9 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 27 weeks of the year was 1,161,833 cars, 19.9 percent higher than last year, and 1,997,084 trailers and/or containers, up 16.1 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/16/83:

	Loadings in Week ended July 16, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,099	I	3,158	11.7	I	2,316	8.3
Other farm products	4,605	D	15	0.3	I	795	20.9
Metallic ores	21,074	I	7,509	55.4	I	1,783	9.2
Coal	93,019	D	8,192	8.1	I	31,341	50.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,353	I	1,207	11.9	I	2,563	29.2
Nonmetallic minerals	11,474	I	2,417	26.7	I	1,798	18.3
Grain mill products	11,237	D	103	0.9	I	1,636	17.0
Food and kindred products	11,157	D	1,447	11.5	I	2,038	22.3
Primary forest products	15,029	D	470	3.0	I	4,773	46.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,032	I	1,199	20.6	I	2,099	42.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,233	D	382	2.6	I	2,446	20.8
Chemicals and allied products	21,137	I	1,781	9.2	I	3,586	20.4
Petroleum products	4,663	I	50	1.1	I	760	19.5
Stone, clay and glass products	11,576	I	1,398	13.7	I	2,070	21.8
Coke	5,766	I	1,346	30.5	I	742	14.8
Metals and products	7,785	I	129	1.7	I	1,807	30.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,493	I	583	4.2	I	2,910	25.1
Waste and scrap materials	8,055	I	853	11.8	I	2,259	39.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,597	D	101	1.3	I	1,118	17.3
All other carloads	48,439	I	7,127	17.3	I	8,133	20.2
LCL traffic	213	D	989	82.3	I	7	3.4
Total Cars Loaded	360,036	I	17,058	5.0	I	76,980	27.2
Corresponding week of 1982	342,978						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (28 weeks)	9,799,402	10,391,842	D 5.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
27 weeks ended July 9	414.9	427.6	D 3.0
Week ended July 16	16.1	14.8	I 9.0
28 weeks cumulative	431.0	442.4	D 2.6

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